



**Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 11, 2012
Westside Pavilion
10800 West Pico Boulevard
Meeting Room A
7:00PM**

1. Call to Order

Call to order: 7:07 PM

By Terri Tippit, WNC Chair

Attendance:

John Padden (Seat 1), Lisa Morocco (Seat 2),
Michael McIntyre Seat 3), Steve Spector (Seat 4),
Phillip St. Pierre (Seat 5), Jerry Asher (Seat 6),
Barbara Broide (Seat 7), Terri Tippit (Seat 8),
Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9), Richard (Dick) Harmetz (Seat 10),
Mary Kusnic (Seat 11), Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12),
Francesca Beale (Seat 13b), Shannon Burns (Seat 14),
Charles Horwitz (Seat 15), Stacy Antler (Seat 16b),
Brandon Behrstock(Seat 17b)

Also Present:

CD5, Wesly Hernandez, Jerry Tsai

2. Approval of September 13, 2012 Minutes

Motion to approve the WNC September 13, 2012 Minutes as noted and also with clarifications to the Outreach Report; both items as noted by Shannon.

Motion By: Lisa

Second By: Jerry

Motion Passed: 11 - 0 - 5 (Seats 5, 9, 13, 16, 17)

3. Review of Agenda (ITEMS BELOW MAY NOT BE HEARD IN THE ORDER LISTED)

4. Agenda Items: New Business

A. Food Forward, Rick Nahmias:

- **Presentation on their program**

Rick explained that Food Forward is a non-profit, volunteer powered grassroots group of Angelenos who care about reconnecting to our food system and making a positive change around urban hunger. He said this group of volunteers, with a staff of four has supplied over 30 agencies across Southern California over 4 million servings of fresh local produce to those in need. This past month he added, we harvested our 1,000,000 millionth pound of backyard fruit for those in need in Southern California -and in just over three years.

Rick stated that Food Forward's mission is to reconnect people with people - through food - by bringing together volunteers and neighbors to share in the gleaning and distributing of locally grown food from private homes and public spaces which is then distributed to local food pantries and organizations serving those in need.

We have been featured in The LA Times, on NPR and various web and print publications. One tree or one hundred trees, no matter, Food Forward supplies the volunteers, equipment and coordination to handle and do picks both large and small, creating an atmosphere of community that encourages its volunteers to reconnect and pass along the abundance of food already present in our daily lives – to those in need.

Rick thanked everyone for this time to introduce Food Forward to our community, he talked about the volunteer opportunities and asked everyone to reach out to property owners who might have mature fruit trees with excess fruit (oranges, grapefruit, lemons, limes, avocados, figs, pomegranates, persimmons, apples, plums, etc.) or excess vegetables in their gardens who would like to donate the unused produce from their trees and plants.

Contact Information:

www.FoodForward.org

Fruitline: 818.530.4125 / Cell: 310.913.3900

B. Lisa Morocco:

- **Update on proposed turn restrictions north side of Pelham/Pico**
- **Pico Beautification**

Lisa spoke about the status of the proposed turn restrictions at Pico and Pelham on the north side noting that signage was being looked at and CD5 was also looking into what could be done to increase safety for all.

Lisa also noted that the WNC would be represented at the California Club Annual Street Fair held on October 14th and the Candidate Debate at Temple Isaiah on October 17th at 5:30PM. She also noted that there was a new menu at Bourbon Street Shrimp.

Lisa announced that the WNC would be applying again for the MTA Call For Projects Funding for Pico Beautification. She discussed the area groups including HOA's, businesses, etc., in addition to the WNC, writing letters of support. Wesly, CD5 stated the WNC had come very close in the last MTA Call and that CD5 is supporting the WNC in this effort.

She also announced the Pico Streetscape meeting for businesses will be held on October 17th at 6:30PM at Heyler Realty.

More details can be found in the WNC Outreach Report.

C. Jay Handel & Joanne Dorfman

- **Procedure for WNC Selection Election November 8, 2012**

Joanne Dorfman stated that 14 applications for the WNC Seats had been received, affirmed and submitted to DONE. She stated that there were no contested seats and noted Seat 17 is 'at large' with the remaining seats board appointed from the parties which have indicated interest in each. Terri said this is done after the Selection / election. She and Terri also noted that the Candidate Information Meeting scheduled on October 18, 2012, was canceled as no seats are contested. Steve summarized and explained the Selection Process. **Joanne stated the Selection for the WNC will be held on November 8th at 6PM.**

Jerry Asher, Seat 6, spoke about his involvement with the WNC as a Board Member during the past years and stated it had been a great experience. He noted that Sarah Shaw whom had submitted the WNC Candidate Filing Form for Seat 6 had a balanced approach and would be a good asset to the WNC. He said he would have time to devote to his other philanthropic endeavors.

Charles Horowitz, Seat 15, stated that working on the WNC for the past 5 years was a privilege. He stated that it was a pleasure to be a part of the WNC, which is wonderful working group of individuals who volunteer to make our area better. He spoke about how much he enjoyed working to help the area schools. He said this had been a wonderful opportunity to represent the schools on Seat 15 and also talked about the Take Me To The Movies fundraising project he had implemented working together with Lisa. Charles said he now would have more time to devote to his family and business.

Noting that they will be missed, Terri and Steve and the WNC Members acknowledged and thanked both Jerry and Charles for all their contributions and wished them the very best in all their endeavors.

D. Barbara Broide:

- **Update on Mural Ordinance / CPC 2008-3142 CA
CF 08-0515, 08-1233, 08-0530**
- **How to use LA Rail System**

Barbara spoke on the status of the Mural Ordinance, noting that it was also postponed to October 11th on the City's Planning Commission Agenda and CD5's request was received too late to remove it. She spoke about the important issue regarding installation on low density housing of fewer than 5 units that had not been fully addressed. She urged all to write to support the ordinance with the limitation that murals not be allowed on properties with fewer than 5 units. Details may be found in Barbara's report.

Barbara also spoke about the LA rail system.

E. Colleen Mason Heller

- **Update Expo Phase 2 Public Utility Commission Hearing**

Colleen presented a historical overview and gave an update on current status of the commission. Please contact Colleen for her report which contains complete details. She also spoke about Measure R and Measure J.

5. Public Forum

Councilmember Eric Garcetti

Eric Garcetti addressed the WNC and stakeholders, noting that he is a member of the Los Angeles City Council, representing the 13th District, and he stated that he is running for Mayor of Los Angeles.

Councilman Garcetti spoke in detail about his vision for Los Angeles and laid out a plan to create jobs, bring back and attract businesses to the area and reform a City Hall system he called "broken." He said the culture has to change and he has a plan that can do that.

He spoke about his background as the son of former Los Angeles County Dist. Atty. Gil Garcetti, and emphasized his deep roots in the city, recalling days growing up in the San Fernando Valley. "It was a simple kind of life, but it was the kind of life that we all dream of," he said. With the recession, he said, that dream "is slipping away."

He spoke about bringing economic revitalization to several neighborhoods he represents, including Atwater Village and Hollywood, which he said "is back" after decades of decline.

He said that when elected he would put an emphasis on expanding the green technology sector and on "growing the shores of Silicon Beach" in Los Angeles and Southern California.

Mr. Garcetti stated that he wants to see the City of Los Angeles get back to work and that he sees the opportunities here limitless for all once the City is working again.

Jae And John of Heyler Realty announced that they will be holding their 1st Annual Block Party on October 21st from 2PM – 5PM. John said activities include a costume party and pumpkin giveaway – children, families, all are welcome.

Dan Martin, Martin Automotive, introduced himself and spoke about the history of their business which dates back to 1950 with Martin Cadillac in Santa Monica. He said in 1975 they relocated to Olympic and Bundy where they employ 160 individuals. He explained his/their vision for the redevelopment of their location; which Dan said will reinvigorate the property and it would be positive for the community and their neighbors. He invited all to visit their website www.martinexpotowncenter.com

Angelike Dexter, Westwood Charter Elementary – WISE (Westwood Involvement Supports Education)

Angelike said they are seeking funding for 12 iPads at \$393.each. She said they have funds raised for the rolling docking station and could use 18 iPads at a student ratio of 2:1. She thanked the WNC for considering and for whatever the WNC is able to do. Terri noted that the WNC had a budget cut given the effects of the economy that the City is dealing with.

6. Reports:

Chair, Terri Tippit:

Terri announced that the LUC/Mobility Committee Meeting will be held on October 30, 2012, at the Westside Pavilion in Meeting Room A at 6:30PM.

LAPD: Senior Lead Officer Rashad Sharif Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzales

Officer Rashad reported on recent crime activities in the WNC area and presented his Crime Update, noting that theft accounts for the majority of crimes. He urged all to be alert and cautious especially with the Holiday Season just around the corner

He also announced the annual Halloween Haunt Event at the Butler station on Sunday October 28th from 10AM to 4:30PM, saying all are welcome

Wesly Hernandez: CD5 Update

Wesly gave an update on CD5 activities and spoke about the MTA Call For Projects. He acknowledged CD5's support for Pico Beautification. He also spoke about the status of the Medical Marijuana Clinics in Los Angeles and noted the street closures for transporting the Endeavor.

Treasurer

Lisa presented the Treasurer's report; she noting the WNC opening balance of \$33,690.36 and a closing balance of \$32,906.79 for the period. Please see the Financial Report for details.

Outreach & Mobility

Lisa covered the September 20th meeting details in Agenda Item B; Please also see accompanying reports for more information.

Motion to Adjourn At 9:30 PM.

Motion By: Jerry

Second By: Shannon

Motion Passed: Unanimous

Submitted By Recording Secretary

